

Lieutenant Colonel Christopher P. Gerdes

Parks Reserve Forces Training Area Garrison Commander



Lieutenant Colonel Christopher P. Gerdes is a native of Dayton, Ohio and began his military career in 1986 by enlisting in the Ohio National Guard. In 1990, he graduated from the Wright State University ROTC program as a Distinguished Military Graduate and was commissioned a Regular Army Second Lieutenant in the Military Police Corps.

LTC Gerdes' initial assignment was as a platoon leader with the 545th MP Company, 1st Cavalry Division. His subsequent assignments include: Platoon Leader, 437th MP Company, Fort Belvoir, VA; Platoon Leader, Fort Myer MP Company; Battalion S1, Headquarters Battalion, Fort Belvoir; and Operations Officer, Office of the Provost Marshal, Fort Bliss, TX. He then left active service to pursue civilian employment opportunities.

While employed in the private sector he held positions of increasing responsibility that included Regional Sales Manager, Distribution Center President, and Corporate Director of Training and Recruiting. Following the events of 9/11, LTC Gerdes chose to again serve his country.

His subsequent assignments have included: Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Logistical Task Force 321, Uzbekistan/Afghanistan; Current Operations Officer, Retention Transition Division, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve; Battalion S3, 391st MP Battalion; Deputy Commander, 771st Civil Support Team; Provost Marshal, Military Intelligence Readiness Command; Staff Officer, Office of the Provost Marshal General, Headquarters, Department of the Army; and Deputy Chief of Staff for Transformation, Defense Forensics and Biometrics Agency.

LTC Gerdes' combat and overseas service includes Operation Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Joint Task Force Bravo (Honduras), and Bamberg, Germany.

LTC Gerdes' military schools include the Military Police Officer Basic and Advance Courses, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, the US Army Command and General Staff Course, the Army War College Defense Strategy Course, and the National Defense University Reserve Component National Security Course. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio and a Masters of Arts in Corporate and Organizational Security Management from Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri.

LTC Gerdes' awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (3), Army Commendation Medal (6), Army Achievement Medal, Army Superior Unit Award, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" device, National Defense Service Medal (2), Southwest Asia Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, the Army Staff Identification Badge, and the German Armed Forced Efficiency Badge (Bronze).

LTC Gerdes and his wife Elizabeth have been married for 23 years and have 3 children: Bobby, Jennifer and Amy